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EXAMINER

MOSSER, ROBERT E

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/597,362	Applicant(s) THOMAS ET AL.	
	Examiner ROBERT MOSSER	Art Unit 3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on ____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 5a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are rejected.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 9) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/06/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement entered 11/06/2006 has been considered. A copy of the cited statement(s) including the notation indicating its respective consideration is attached for the Applicant's records.

The IDS submitted November 6th, 2006 references the full document EP 0829834, however no full copy of the document was submitted with the IDS.

The information disclosure statement filed 11/06/2006 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims **1, 2, 8-10**, and **12-21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hughes-Watts (US 6,921,072).

Claim **1**: Hughes-Watts teaches an apparatus for playing a game comprising:
a plurality of randomizers each for generating one or more random indicia from a predefined set of indicia in a turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Elements 102-108; Col 3:44-50);
one or more playfields for play in each turn of play, the one or more playfields each being associated with at least one of the plurality of randomizers and offering for play via that playfield the same predefined set of indicia as the associated randomizer or randomizers (*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Element 110; Col 3:51-53); and
evaluation means for:
determining which of the plurality of randomizers has or have been selected for play by a player in a turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 3:57-4:5);
determining if the one or more random indicia generated by the selected randomizer or randomizers in a turn of play has or have been validly selected for play via a playfield or playfields associated with that randomizer or randomizers and is a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34); and
awarding a winning payment or credit to the player of a winning game entry (*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34);
wherein, in each turn of play:

each player of the game selects one or more of the plurality of randomizers for play in that turn of play and for each randomizer selected uses at least one of the associated playfields by placing a stake or stakes to select one or more indicia on that playfield for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:6-34), whereafter:

at least the selected one or selected ones of the plurality of randomizers each generate one or more random indicia from the predefined set of indicia for that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:26-34); and

the evaluation means determines if there are any winning game entries and awards a winning payment or credit to each player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claim 2: Hughes-Watts teaches an apparatus for playing a game comprising:

a plurality of randomizers each for generating one or more random indicia from a predefined set of indicia in a turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Elements 102-108; Col 3:44-50);

a plurality of playfields for play in each turn of play, the plurality of playfields each being associated with at least one of the plurality of randomizers and offering for play via that playfield the same predefined set of indicia as the associated randomizer or randomizers(*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Element 110; Col 2:14-17; 3:51-53); and

evaluation means for:

determining which of the plurality of randomizers has or have been selected for play by a player in a turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 3:57-4:5);

determining if the one or more random indicia generated by the selected randomizer or randomizers in a turn of play has or have been validly selected for play via a playfield or playfields associated with that randomizer or randomizers and is a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34); and

awarding a winning payment or credit to the player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34);

wherein, in each turn of play:

each player of the game selects one or more of the plurality of randomizers for play in that turn of play and for each randomizer selected uses at least one of the associated playfields by placing a stake or stakes to select one or more indicia on that playfield for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:6-34), whereafter:

at least the selected one or selected ones of the plurality of randomizers each generate one or more random indicia from the predefined set of indicia for that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:26-34); and

the evaluation means determines if there are any winning game entries and awards a winning payment or credit to each player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claims **8** and **9**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the plurality of randomizers and playfields is effected using electrical and/or electronic components (*Hughes-Watts* Col 1:57-2:2).

Claim **10**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the electrical and/or electronic components comprise any one or more of a computer means, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a cellular telephone, a television, or a visual display unit (*Hughes-Watts* Element 204).

Claim **12**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the plurality of randomizers is traditional physical apparatus (*Hughes-Watts* Abstract; Figure 1; Col 4:3-5).

Claim **13**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the playfields is effected using traditional physical apparatus (*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:6-19).

Claim **14**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus used in the game of roulette (*Hughes-Watts* Abstract).

Claim **15:** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the plurality of randomizers is a roulette wheel (*Hughes-Watts* Abstract; Figure 1; Col 4:3-5).

Claim **16:** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more roulette wheels is a standard single zero or double zero wheel (-traditional European or American style roulette wheel- *Hughes-Watts* Col 1:61-63).

Claim **17:** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more roulette wheels is of bespoke design (*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Col 1:61-66).

Claim **18:** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more roulette wheels comprises bespoke indicia (*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Col 1:61-66).

Claim **19:** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the playfields is a roulette playfield (*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Col 4:6-25).

Claim **20**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more playfields is a standard single zero or double zero playfield (*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Col 4:6-25).

Claim **21**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more playfields comprises bespoke indicia (*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims **3-7, 11**, and **22-47** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hughes-Watts (US 6,921,072) in view of Karmarkar (US 7,285,048).

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Claim 3: Hughes-Watts teaches the gaming apparatus as presented above including enabling the a plurality of player terminals to be interconnected through the Internet such that a plurality of players may participate in the same game outcome (*Hughes-Watts* Col 5:37-43) and that the device may be placed remotely from the gaming terminal such that a centralized server may communicate the outcome of the game to the remote terminals (*Hughes-Watts* Col 2:47-52). Despite the preceding, Hughes-Watts arguably does not explicitly describe the use of a central control unit for providing the interconnection of the game terminals and housing the randomizers commonly with the central controller however in a related invention Karmarkar teaches that the use of a central control unit for providing the interconnection of the game terminals and housing the randomizers in a gaming environment (*Karmarkar* Figures 1A, 2, & 5; Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have incorporated the central control unit housed commonly with the randomizers as taught by Karmarkar in the invention of Hughes-Watts in order to provide a system architecture that would readily support the interconnection of a plurality of player terminals such that the players were able to participate in the same game as disclosed by Hughes-Watts.

Claim 4: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches one or more terminals (*Hughes-Watts* Figure 2) each connectable to the central control unit for communication therebetween (as cited in the rejection of claim 3), each

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terminal being provided for use by a player to play the game and offering that player one or more of the playfields for play in each turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Element 110; Col 2:14-17; 3:51-53), wherein each player of the game uses a terminal to select one or more of the plurality of randomizers for play in that turn of play and for each randomizer selected uses at least one of the associated playfields by placing a stake or stakes to select one or more indicia on that playfield for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:6-34, 5:30-36).

Claim 5: The combination of *Hughes-Watts* & *Karmarkar* further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more terminals is/are located in close proximity to the central control unit and hard wired together for communication therebetween (-*Lan- Karmarkar* Col 2:20-44).

Claim 6: The combination of *Hughes-Watts* & *Karmarkar* further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more terminals is/are located in close proximity to the central control unit and communication therebetween is wireless using infra-red, radio, cellular, blue tooth or other wire free communication medium (-*Satellite- Karmarkar* Col 2:20-44).

Claim 7: The combination of *Hughes-Watts* & *Karmarkar* further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more terminals is/are located remotely from the central control unit and/or from each other and communication therebetween is

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effected via a network such as an intranet or the Internet (*Hughes-Watts* Col 5:37-43).

Claims **11** and **46**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the electrical and/or electronic components comprise processing means, data storage means and are programmable (*Karmarkar* Col 8:3-19).

Claim **22**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus for use in a dice game (-Craps- *Karmarkar* Element 470; Figure 11; Col 9:44-52, 19:32-40).

Claim **23**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the plurality of randomizers is a die or set of dice (-Craps- *Karmarkar* Element 470; Figure 11; Col 9:44-52, 19:32-40).

Claim **24**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein each die or each set of dice is a standard die or set of dice(-Craps- *Karmarkar* Element 470; Figure 11; Col 9:44-52, 19:32-40).

Claim **25**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an

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apparatus wherein each die or each set of dice comprises standard indicia(-
conventional element of Craps- *Karmarkar* Element 470; Figure 11; Col 9:44-52,
19:32-40).

Claim **26:** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an
apparatus wherein each die or each set of dice comprises bespoke indicia(-
conventional element of Craps- *Karmarkar* Element 470; Figure 11; Col 9:44-52,
19:32-40).

Claim **27:** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an
apparatus wherein one or more of the playfields is a roulette playfield (*Hughes-*
Watts Figure 1; Col 4:6-25).

Claim **28:** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an
apparatus wherein one or more of the playfields is a bespoke playfield (*Hughes-*
Watts Figure 1).

Claim **29:** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an
apparatus wherein the one or more playfields comprises standard dice indicia (-
conventional element of Craps- *Karmarkar* Element 470; Figures 11, 13; Col
9:44-52, 19:32-40).

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Claim **30**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more playfields comprises bespoke dice indicia(-conventional element of Craps- *Karmarkar* Element 470; Figures 11, 13; Col 9:44-52, 19:32-40).

Claim **31**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus for use in a card game(-poker- *Karmarkar* Element 76; Figures 1a, 6; Col 19:1-9, 9:44-52, 19:46-53).

Claim **32**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the plurality of randomizers comprises playing cards(-conventional element of poker- *Karmarkar* Element 76; Figures 1a, 6; Col 19:1-9, 9:44-52, 19:46-53).

Claim **33**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the playfields comprises playing card indicia(-conventional element of poker- *Karmarkar* Element 76; Figures 1a, 6; Col 19:1-9, 9:44-52, 19:46-53).

Claim **34**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus for use in the game of bingo(-bingo- *Karmarkar*; Col 19:1-9).

Claim **35**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the plurality of randomizers comprises bingo balls(-conventional element of bingo- *Karmarkar*, Col 19:1-9).

Claim **36**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein one or more of the playfields comprises bingo indicia(-conventional element of bingo- *Karmarkar*, Col 19:1-9).

Claim **37**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus for playing a game comprising:

- a central control unit comprising a plurality of randomizers each generating one or more random indicia from a predefined set of indicia in each turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Elements 102-108; Col 3:44-50 & *Karmarkar* Figures 1A, 2, & 5; Abstract);
- one or more terminals each connectable to the central control unit for communication therebetween, each terminal being provided for use by a player to play the game and offering that player one or more playfields for play in each turn of play, the one or more playfields each being associated with at least one randomizer of the central control unit and offering for play via that playfield the same predefined set of indicia as the associated randomizer (*Hughes-Watts* Figures 1, 2; Element 110; Col 2:14-17, 3:51-53, 5:30-36);

evaluation means for determining if the one or more random indicia generated by each of the plurality of randomizers in each turn of play has or have been validly selected for play via a playfield on a terminal in any turn of play and is a winning game entry and for awarding a winning payment or credit to the player of a winning game entry, wherein in each turn of play (*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34);

each player of the game uses a terminal to select one or more of the plurality of randomizers for play in that turn of play and for each randomizer selected uses at least one of the associated playfields by placing a stake or stakes to select one or more indicia on that playfield for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 3:61-4:3, 4:6-34), whereafter:

the plurality of randomizers of the central control unit each generate one or more random indicia from the predefined set of indicia for that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:26-34); and

the evaluation means determines if there are any winning game entries and awards a winning payment or credit to each player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claim 38: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus for playing a game comprising:

a central control unit comprising a randomizer for generating one or more random indicia from a predefined set of indicia in each turn of play(*Hughes-Watts*

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Figure 1; Elements 102-108; Col 3:44-50 & *Karmarkar* Figures 1A, 2, & 5; Abstract);

one or more terminals each connectable to the central control unit for communication therebetween, each terminal being provided for use by a player to play the game and offering that player a plurality of playfields for play in each turn of play, the plurality of playfields each offering for play via that playfield the same predefined set of indicia as the randomizer(*Hughes-Watts* Figures 1, 2; Element 110; Col 2:14-17, 3:51-53, 5:30-36);

evaluation means for determining if the one or more random indicia generated by the randomizer in each turn of play has or have been validly selected for play via a playfield on a terminal in any turn of play and is a winning game entry and for awarding a winning payment or credit to the player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34), wherein in each turn of play:

each player of the game uses a terminal to select one or more of the plurality of playfields for play in that turn of play and for each playfield selected places a stake or stakes to select one or more indicia on that playfield for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 3:61-4:3, 4:6-34),whereafter:

the randomizer of the central control unit generates one or more random indicia from the predefined set of indicia for that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:26-34); and

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the evaluation means determines if there are any winning game entries and awards a winning payment or credit to each player of a winning game entry (*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claim :**39** The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus for playing a game comprising:

a central control unit comprising one or more randomizers each generating one or more random indicia from a predefined set of indicia in each turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Elements 102-108; Col 3:44-50 & *Karmarkar* Figures 1A, 2, & 5; Abstract);

one or more terminals each connectable to the central control unit for communication therebetween, each terminal being provided for use by a player to play the game and offering that player one or more playfields for play in each turn of play, the one or more playfields each being associated with at least one randomizer of the central control unit and offering for play via that playfield the same predefined set of indicia as the associated randomizer(*Hughes-Watts* Figures 1, 2; Element 110; Col 2:14-17, 3:51-53, 5:30-36);

evaluation means for determining if the one or more random indicia generated by each of the one or more randomizers in each turn of play has or have been validly selected for play via a playfield on a terminal in any turn of play and is a winning game entry and for awarding a winning payment or credit to the

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player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34), wherein in each turn of play:

each player of the game uses a terminal to select one or more of the randomizers for play in that turn of play and for each randomizer selected uses at least one of the associated playfields by placing a stake or stakes to select one or more indicia on that playfield for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 3:61-4:3, 4:6-34), whereafter:

the one or more randomizers of the central control unit each generate one or more random indicia from the predefined set of indicia for that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:26-34); and

the evaluation means determines if there are any winning game entries and awards a winning payment or credit to each player of a winning game entry (*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claim 40: The combination of *Hughes-Watts* & *Karmarkar* further teaches an apparatus for playing a game comprising:

a central control unit comprising a randomizer for generating one or more random indicia from a predefined set of indicia in each turn of play (*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Elements 102-108; Col 3:44-50 & *Karmarkar* Figures 1A, 2, & 5; Abstract);

one or more terminals each connectable to the central control unit for communication therebetween, each terminal being provided for use by a player

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to play the game and offering that player a playfield for play in each turn of play, the playfield offering for play the same predefined set of indicia as the randomizer(*Hughes-Watts* Figures 1, 2; Element 110; Col 2:14-17, 3:51-53, 5:30-36);

evaluation means for determining if the one or more random indicia generated by the randomizer in each turn of play has or have been validly selected for play via the playfield on a terminal in any turn of play and is a winning game entry and for awarding a winning payment or credit to the player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34), wherein in each turn of play:

each player of the game uses a terminal to place a stake or stakes to select one or more indicia on that playfield for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 3:61-4:3, 4:6-34), whereafter:

the randomizer of the central control unit generates one or more random indicia from the predefined set of indicia for that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:26-34); and

the evaluation means determines if there are any winning game entries and awards a winning payment or credit to each player of a winning game entry (*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claim 41: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus for playing a game comprising:

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a central control unit comprising one or more randomizers for generating one or more random indicia from a set of available indicia in each turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Elements 102-108; Col 3:44-50 & *Karmarkar* Figures 1A, 2, & 5; Abstract);

a plurality of terminals each connectable to the central control unit for communication therebetween, each terminal being provided for use by a player of the game and offering that player a plurality of independent game entries for play in each turn of play, each terminal comprising a payment acceptor means for receiving payment or credit of one or more stakes from a player of the game, and a selector means for selecting one or more of the independent game entries for play in a turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Figures 1, 2; Element 110; Col 2:14-17, 3:51-53, 5:30-36);

comparator means for determining when the one or more random indicia generated by one or more randomizers in each turn of play has been validly selected for play on a terminal in a game entry by a player and is a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34); and

payment means for awarding a winning credit or payment to the player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34), wherein in each turn of play:

each player of the game selects a terminal for play, deposits one or more stakes via the payment acceptor or uses banked or credited stakes to provide credit for that turn of play, selects one or more of the independent game entries for play in that turn of play and, for each independent game entry, selects one or

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more indicia from the set of available indicia for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:6-34,5:30-36); and

the one or more randomizers each generate one or more random indicia from the set of available indicia for that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:26-34), whereupon:

the comparator means determines if there are any winning game entries; and the payment means awards a winning credit or payment to the player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claim **42**: The combination of *Hughes-Watts* & *Karmarkar* further teaches an apparatus for playing a game as claimed in claim 41 wherein the

comparator means and the payment means are integrated(-as the same system performed both tasks they are understood as integrated- *Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claim **43**: The combination of *Hughes-Watts* & *Karmarkar* further teaches an apparatus for playing a game comprising:

a central control unit comprising one or more randomizers each generating one or more random indicia from a predefined set of indicia in each turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Elements 102-108; Col 3:44-50 & *Karmarkar* Figures 1A, 2, & 5; Abstract);

one or more terminals each connectable to the central control unit for communication therebetween, each terminal being provided for use by a player to play the game and offering that player a plurality of independent game entries for play in each turn of play, each terminal comprising payment acceptor means for receiving payment from or accessing credit for that player of one or more stakes, and selector means for use by that player to select one or more of the independent game entries for play in a turn of play and to place one or more stakes by selecting one or more indicia from the predefined set of indicia for play in each independent game entry selected for play(*Hughes-Watts* Figures 1, 2; Element 110; Col 2:14-17, 3:51-53, 5:30-36);

evaluation means for determining if the one or more random indicia generated by the one or more randomizers in each turn of play has or have been validly selected for play on a terminal in any game entry by a player and is a winning game entry and awarding a winning payment or credit to the player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34), wherein in each turn of play:

each player of the game uses a terminal to select one or more of the plurality of independent game entries for play in that turn of play and, for each independent game entry selected for play, places one or more stakes by selecting one or more indicia from the predefined set of indicia for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:6-34,5:30-36); and

the one or more randomizers each generate one or more random indicia from the predefined set of indicia for that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:26-34),

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whereupon the evaluation means determines if there are any winning game entries and awards a winning payment or credit to each player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claim **44**: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus for playing a game comprising:

a central control unit comprising a plurality of randomizers each generating one or more random indicia from a predefined set of indicia in each turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1; Elements 102-108; Col 3:44-50 & *Karmarkar* Figures 1A, 2, & 5; Abstract);

one or more terminals each connectable to the central control unit for communication therebetween, each terminal being provided for use by a player to play the game and offering that player a plurality of independent game entries for play in each turn of play, each terminal comprising payment acceptor means for receiving payment from or accessing credit for that player of one or more stakes, and selector means for use by that player to select one or more of the independent game entries for play in a turn of play and to place one or more stakes by selecting one or more indicia from the predefined set of indicia for play in each independent game entry selected for play(*Hughes-Watts* Figures 1, 2; Element 110; Col 2:14-17, 3:51-53, 5:30-36);

evaluation means for determining if the one or more random indicia generated by the plurality of randomizers in each turn of play has or have been

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validly selected for play on a terminal in any game entry by a player and is a winning game entry and awarding a winning payment or credit to the player of a winning game entry, wherein in each turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:20-34);

each player of the game uses a terminal to select one or more of the plurality of independent game entries for play in that turn of play and, for each independent game entry selected for play, places one or more stakes by selecting one or more indicia from the predefined set of indicia for play in that turn of play(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:6-34,5:30-36); and

the plurality of randomizers each generate one or more random indicia from the predefined set of indicia for that turn of play (*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:26-34), whereupon the evaluation means determines if there are any winning game entries and awards a winning payment or credit to each player of a winning game entry(*Hughes-Watts* Col 4:30-34).

Claim 45: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the electrical and/or electronic components comprise any one or more of a computer means, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a cellular telephone, a television, or a visual display unit (*Hughes-Watts* Element 204).

Claim 47: The combination of Hughes-Watts & Karmarkar further teaches an apparatus wherein the one or more playfields comprises bespoke indicia (*Hughes-Watts* Figure 1).

Conclusion

The following prior art is made of record and though not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Jarvis et al (US 6,890,255) teaches a multiple wheel roulette game.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT MOSSER whose telephone number is (571)272-4451. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-4:30 Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Lewis can be reached on (571) 272-7673. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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